

App. No. 09/787641
Office Action Dated October 6, 2004
Amd. Dated December 8, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Claim 8 is amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut having less than 9 mass%, as determined according to IP 391 or ASTM D 5186 standards, aromatics content, between 0.44 mass% and 8.99 mass% monocyclic aromatics content, and less than 0.01 mass% polycyclic aromatics.
- 2-3 (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, having an isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of between about 1:1 to about 12:1.
5. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 4, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio is between about 2:1 to about 6:1.
6. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 5, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio is 4:1.
7. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, wherein the synthetic distillate is derived from a FT primary product.
8. (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 4, wherein the synthetic distillate comprising comprises more than 50% isoparaffins, ~~wherein~~ the isoparaffins are predominantly methyl and/or ethyl and/or propyl branched.
9. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 8, wherein the gradient of an isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio profile of the synthetic middle distillate cut increases from about 1:1 for C₈ to 8.54:1 for C₁₅ and decrease again to about 3:1 for C₁₈.

App. No. 09/787641
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10. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 9, wherein a fraction of the synthetic middle distillate cut in the C₁₀ to C₁₈ carbon number range has a higher ratio of isoparaffins to n-paraffins than a C₈ to C₉ fraction of the synthetic middle distillate cut.
11. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 9, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C₁₀ to C₁₈ fraction is between 1:1 and 9:1.
12. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 9, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio is about 8.54:1 for a C₁₅ fraction of the synthetic middle distillate cut.
13. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 8, wherein a C₁₉ to C₂₄ fraction of the middle distillate cut has a mass ratio range of isoparaffins to n-paraffins of between 3.3:1 and 5:1.
14. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 8, wherein the mass ratio of isoparaffins to n-paraffins is adjusted by controlling the blend ratio of hydrocracked to straight run components of the synthetic middle distillate cut.
15. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 14, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C₁₀ to C₁₈ fraction having 30% straight run component is between 1:1 and 2:5:1.
16. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 14, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C₁₀ to C₁₈ fraction having 20% straight run component is between 1.5:1 and 3:5:1.

App. No. 09/787641

Office Action Dated October 6, 2004

Amd. Dated December 8, 2004

17. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 14, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C₁₀ to C₁₈ fraction having 10% straight run component is between 2.3:1 and 4.3:1.
18. (Original) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 14, wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C₁₀ to C₁₈ fraction having substantially only a hydrocracked component is between 4:1 and 9:1.
19. (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 8, wherein at least some of the isoparaffins are methyl branched.
20. (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed claim 8, wherein at least some of the isoparaffins are di-methyl branched.
21. (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed claim 8, wherein at least 30% (mass) of the isoparaffins are mono-methyl branched.
22. (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed claim 8, wherein at least some of the isoparaffins are ethyl branched.
- 23-25 (Canceled)
26. (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 8, wherein the synthetic distillate is a FT product.
- 27-56 (Canceled)
57. (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 11, wherein the C₁₉ to C₂₄ fraction of the middle distillate cut has a mass ratio range of isoparaffins to n-paraffins of between 4:1 and 4.9:1.